

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 01998 110913Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /064 W
-----110916Z 007535 /13

O R 101129Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0542
INFO AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY CABORONE
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 1998

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SW, RH

SUBJECT: JOSHUA NKOMO MEETS WITH SWEDISH PRESS

1. PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADER JOSHUA NKOMO, CURRENTLY VISITING
SWEDEN FOLLOWING TALKS IN LONDON LAST WEEK, MET WITH THE
SWEDISH PRESS ON MAY 9. EXCERPTS OF NKOMO'S COMMENTS FOLLOW:

2. "THE CONFLICT IN RHODESIA IS A MATTER BETWEEN THE
NATIONALISTS IN ZIMBABWE AND THE COLONIAL POWER GREAT BRITAIN.
THE US CAN HELP THE BRITISH, BUT THE AMERICANS CANNOT SIT IN
AS 'CO-SPONSORS' AT A POSSIBLE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE.
THEN PERHAPS THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE WOULD WANT TO SIT IN
TOO...AND CHINA, THE SOVIET UNION, INDIA...WHERE DOES ONE
DRAW THE LINE?"

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3. "WE IMMEDIATELY SAW A DANGER IN THIS PLAN (TO
HAVE THE US CO-SPONSOR A NEW CONFERENCE). WE DO NOT
WISH TO HAVE ANY SUPER POWER INVOLVEMENT IN ZIMBABWE."

4. THE INTERVIEWER NOTED THAT NKOMO HAS JUST COME
FROM MEETING WITH SECRETARY VANCE, AND THAT THERE WAS

A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF EMBARRASSMENT IN THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE WHEN NKOMO DELCARED AFTER TALKS WITH THE AMERICANS THAT THE US NO LONGER INTENDS TO CO-SPONSOR A RHODESIA CONFERENCE. NKOMO REPLIED, "I EXPLAINED TO VANCE THAT WE ARE NOT AGAINST THE USA, AS WE HAVE BEEN ACCUSED OF BEING, BUT WE ARE FOR A SOLUTION IN ZIMBABWE. AS SOON AS THE SUPER POWERS ARE INVITED THERE IS TROUBLE. THE AMERICANS CAN VERY WELL DOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS TO HELP THE BRITISH, BUT THEY SHOULD STAY AWAY FROM ANY CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE. VANCE LISTENED TO ME AND DECIDED TO PULL OUT."

5. "DR. OWEN IS A YOUNG, NAIVE MAN AND VERY ENTHUSIASTIC, BUT I CANNOT CONCEIVE HOW HIS PLAN WILL BE SUCCESSFUL. BEFORE WE SIT DOWN AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE AGAIN, WE MUST SPEAK WITH THE SAME KIND OF LANGUAGE, AND NOT FUMBLE IN THE DARK LIKE WE DID IN GENEVA. FIRST OF ALL THE BRITISH WILL HAVE TO ACCEPT THAT THERE IS A WAR GOING ON IN ZIMBABWE. THEY STILL TALK ABOUT THE CONFLICT IN POLITICAL TERMS. THIS IS NOT REALISTIC."

6. IN DISCUSSING THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, NKOMO SAID, "THE COOPERATION OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT DURING THE GENEVA CONFERENCE HELPED REMOVE FEELINGS OF SUSPICION. WE HAVE CREATED CONFIDENCE... BUT NOW WE ARE ALSO WORKING TO ORGANIZE A MILITARY ALLIANCE. ONE CAN HAVE A GREAT MANY PARTIES IN ONE COUNTRY, BUT ONLY ONE ARMY. OTHERWISE THERE WILL BE A CATASTROPHY AND A CIVIL WAR."

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7. NKOMO ADDED THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT HOPES TO OPEN AN OFFICE IN STOCKHOLM IN ORDER TO IMPROVE CONTACTS WITH THE SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES. DURING HIS VISIT TO STOCKHOLM (WHICH ENDS ON MAY 11), HE HAS MET THUS FAR WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SODER, AID MINISTER ULLSTEN, AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHAIRMAN OLOF PALME.
PERRY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 10-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STOCKH01998
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770165-0707
Format: TEL
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770573/aaaacldq.tel
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, SW, RH, (NKOMO, JOSHUA)
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